# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6270
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2002
ERADICATION OF DIABETES
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether April 7, 2002 was observed as the World Health Day;

(b) if so, the details of health programmes started by the Government on this day;

(c) whether the number of diabetic patients are constantly increasing in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the specific measures taken by the Government to educate people to fight against diabetes?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): No new health programmes have been launched on the World Health Day.

(c)&(d): The estimated number of diabetic patients in the country is 25 million. There is epidemiological evidence showing increase in prevalence of diabetes particularly in urban areas of the country. As per World Health Organization projects, India will have 57 million diabetics by 2025 when India may become the country to have the largest number of diabetic patients due to rapid increase in population, ageing population and lifestyle changes.

(e): National Diabetes Control Programme has been transferred to the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)The ICMR has convened an Expert Group Meeting to formulate a revised comprehensive plan of action to combat the possible epidemic of Diabetes Mellitus through the Diabetes Control Programme. Under this plan stress will be laid on:

(i) Primary Prevention Activities: IEC activities and public awareness campaigns stressing on healthy dietary and physical activity measures.

(ii) Secondary Prevention: Evolve low cost management guidelines on diabetic care.